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the United States, ye peoples of all countries and of all names — when will you comprehend the truth of those words which were one day addressed to the great engineer, Cyrus W. Field, by the great democrat, John Bright:

"A country may have democratic institutions, its government may be republican and founded on a large suffrage, and yet men may have there no liberty in that which really constitutes life and prosperity. If the labor of man is not free, if exchanges are not free, man is not free. Whether the law which imposes these restrictions be the work of a republican power or of an aristocratic power, it is equally pernicious and ought to be condemned and opposed by all those who love liberty and know in what it consists."

Fellow-citizens of all countries, to whom these words of mine and this appeal are addressed, answer me by laboring in your own land, as I am trying to do in mine, for economic emancipation, for the reduction of tariffs, for the recognition of the natural right to buy and sell, which is only one of the forms of the imprescriptible right to labor and to live, and by the development of the exchange of products, which is necessarily an exchange of ideas, relations and services, help to multiply and to make closer the bonds of friendship which, as the great saint, John Chrysostom, said more than fifteen centuries ago, ought to unite forever around the common table of the Father all the members of the human family.

Argentina's Arbitration Treaties.

Though the treaties of arbitration and reduction of armaments between the Argentine Republic and Chile have been thoroughly presented heretofore in our columns, yet the following comment on them by the *New York Tribune* sets forth their character and value so admirably that we are glad to reproduce it for the benefit of our readers:

Argentina is getting right down to the root of the matter of international arbitration. While other nations have been talking about permanent and general arbitration treaties, and have been standing around and looking at the tribunal at The Hague, that progressive South American state has been actually doing the thing. That is to say, she has concluded with two of her neighbors, Chile and Paraguay, hard and fast general arbitration treaties, good for the next ten years at least, in terms calculated to make other nations rub their eyes with amazement.

These treaties, it is first to be noticed, provide for the arbitration of all questions "which do not affect the provisions of the constitution of either country." There is not a word of the vague generalities about questions "involving the integrity or honor of the country" — a fine enough phrase, but one sufficiently elastic to cover any conceivable question which a country might be reluctant to submit to arbitration. These South Americans may not be such sticklers for "honor" as some others, or they may be; but they evidently are not afraid to intrust their honor or integrity to the judgment of a tribunal of their peers. So they bind themselves, absolutely and unequivocally, to submit to arbitration all questions, no matter what they involve, so long as they

do not affect the provisions of their constitutions — the latter, of course, a proper and essential proviso.

Again, these treaties present the novel feature of what we may call a decree *nisi prius*. The judgment of the tribunal is not to go into effect at once, but at the end of a stated period, unless in the meantime something shall turn up to put a different aspect upon it. In the latter case, if new evidence be found, or former testimony be impeached, the case may on appeal be reopened before the same tribunal and the verdict reconsidered. But if no such appeal be made within the stipulated time, the decree becomes absolute and final. It is to be observed, too, that the treaties explicitly declare that compliance with the decree is intrusted to the honor of the nations concerned. — *New York Tribune*.

Weeding.

BY IDA WHIPPLE BENHAM.

Death went weeding, weeding,
His sickle over his shoulder;
The weak, the old, the over-bold,
Grew weaker, wanner, colder.
He weeded them out of the garden,
The frail folk racked with pain,
The sick, and the old, and the over-bold, —
And let the strong remain.

Now Death goes weeding, weeding, —
The sword the tool he uses!
He gathers the fair, the debonair,
The young, — and the old refuses.
He gathers out of the garden
The young and the strong and the gay,
He flings them far to the ditch of war, —
And the others he bids "Stay!"

So here in the ravaged garden
And out in the cornfield yonder,
The weak remain — lonely, in pain, —
And work, and brood, and ponder
How Death digs out of the garden
The strong, and the brave, and the gay,
The flower of the years, — with blood and tears, —
And flings them as weeds away.

MYSTIC, CONN.

— *The Independent*.

Pamphlets Received.

RAPPORT SUR L'ACTIVITE DU GROUPE NORVEGIEN DE L'UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE, 1901-1902. Particularly Concerning the Question of the Permanent Neutrality of the Scandinavian States. Kristiania, Norway: Johannes Bjornstad.

THE COAL MINES AND THE PUBLIC. A Popular Statement of the Legal Aspects of the Coal Problem, and of the Rights of Consumers. By Heman W. Chaplin of the Boston Bar. Boston: J. B. Millet Co.

PEACE AND GOODWILL. Bound copy of Vol. V. of the organ of the Wisbech (England) Local Peace Association.

JEAN DE BLOCH AND THE MUSEUM OF WAR AND PEACE. By G. H. Ferris, 40 Outer Temple, Strand, London, W. C., England.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AND PEACE ASSOCIATION. London, W. C.: 40 Outer Temple, Strand.

CHRISTIANITY VERSUS WAR. By Rev. W. J. Spriggs-Smith, Tarrington Vicarage, Wisbech, England.

BULLETS, EXPANSIVE, EXPLOSIVE AND POISONED. By Alfred Marks. Reprint from the *Westminster Review* (London), June, 1902.

TAXING THE PEOPLE'S FOOD TO PAY FOR THE MILLIONAIRE'S WAR. Hon. W. R. Cremer's protest in Parliament against the proposal, finally adopted, to put a tax on corn.